



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD

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**RESOLUTION NO. 04-26**

WHEREAS, The Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) is a citizens board appointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate and is required to make budget recommendations for higher education funding to both the governor and the legislature; and

WHEREAS, These recommendations are to be based on a review and evaluation of the operating and capital budget requests from the four-year institutions and the community and technical college system and how well these requests align with the board's budget priorities, the missions of the institutions, and the statewide strategic master plan for higher education; and

WHEREAS, The Board adopted the *2004 Strategic Master Plan for Higher Education* where it described its vision, goals, and specific proposals for improving the higher education segment of the state's education system; and

WHEREAS, The strategic master plan includes two goals: (1) increasing the opportunities for students to earn degrees and (2) responding to the state's economic needs; and

WHEREAS, The board has identified budget priorities linked to meeting the goals identified in the strategic master plan. These priorities include: increasing enrollments, including enrollments in high-demand fields; improving the quality of higher education by, among other things, increasing faculty and staff salaries; expanding student financial aid; providing increased funding for basic research; helping community college students to transfer; and improving the student data system; and

WHEREAS, The legislature passed and the governor signed into law House Bill 2151 which provided that the public four-year institutions work with the board and the Council of Presidents to prepare a single prioritized individual ranking of institutional capital projects; that the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges was to continue to submit a single prioritized ranking of proposed community and technical college capital projects; and that the board was to develop criteria for prioritization of these projects; and

WHEREAS, The legislature passed and the governor signed into law Senate Bill 5908 which authorized approximately \$750 million in general obligation bonds over three biennia, beginning in 2003-05, to provide additional capital funding for higher education; and

WHEREAS, The citizen governing boards of the public higher education institutions have submitted operating and capital budget requests for the 2003-05 biennium;



THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the board endorses the operating and capital budget requests approved by the citizen governing boards of the public higher education institutions; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the board has determined that reaching the goals outlined in the strategic master plan in the 2005-07 biennium would be accomplished by making investments of \$848 million in the 2005-07 biennium; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the public institutions clearly explain to the governor, legislature, and the HECB how these additional resources have been used and the benefits that have accrued; and

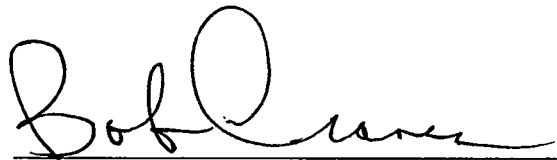
THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the board recommends that in the 2005-07 biennium the governor and legislature:

1. Provide \$848 million in additional state investments in the higher education operating budget to begin to accomplish the goals outlined by the HECB, and
2. Provide a total of up to \$1.04 billion in capital funding with resources from state General Obligation Bonds, local institutional capital project account funds, and reimbursable bonds to be financed from the Education Construction Fund.

Adopted:

October 21, 2004

Attest:



Bob Craves, Chair



Gene Colin, Secretary